

York

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Comment text:

Related subject: Heslington

Richard Frost

I fully support the comments made by Heslington Parish Council and the Village Trust about the change of boundary for the University and Heslington.

My concern is that it puts together two quite different populations in a disproportionate way.

Heslington (outside the University) is a small population of some 700 mostly long term residents. It has, historically, been able to maintain its rural feel and resist encroachment by the University.

Within the boundary proposed the main population will be some 7000 students in University halls. The demographic of this population will be substantially different from that of Heslington. They characteristically are transient and there for one to three years. Many, for example, spend their first year in hall and then move to accommodation elsewhere in the city. Most of them will not stay in the area once they have finished their education in York.

So, we have a stable population of a rural village whose general interests are long term overwhelmed 10 to 1 by a population whose interests are largely short term and will be specific to that younger population. Inevitably this means, I feel, that the interests of local people will be very poorly

represented.

By contrast, the current ward boundary contains a population mix which is very similar to Heslington with a similar demographic and similar problems. Heslington sits much more comfortably in this community. It should be noted that the University has a proportionate voice in this ward as there are, for example around 900 registered voters at University college addresses in Heslington Parish alone and many more living in student accommodation in the current ward.

I ask that the Boundary Commission reconsiders its proposal to form a new boundary combining the University with Heslington.

Attached Documents:

None attached